

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Original) A water treatment cartridge, said water treatment cartridge having a major and a minor axis in a horizontal cross-section, with mounting lugs being provided at the upper end of the cartridge, generally aligned with the major axis of the cartridge.

2. (Original) A water treatment cartridge as claimed in claim 1 wherein no mounting lugs extend from any other part of the cartridge.

3. (Currently Amended) A water treatment cartridge as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein the cartridge is provided with a sealing surface, preferably a circular sealing surface, arranged radially inwardly of the mounting lugs.

4. (Original) A mounting part of or for a water treatment cartridge, said mounting part having a generally circular sealing surface, and having mounting lugs arranged at opposed ends thereof along an elongate direction of the mounting.

5. (Original) A water treatment cartridge having a mounting part as claimed in claim 4 as an integral part thereof or a separate element.

6. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 4 wherein the cartridge body, ~~or at least its mounting part~~, is generally elliptical in horizontal cross-section.

7. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 4 wherein the mounting lugs are planar and extend for a significant distance around the periphery of the cartridge, most preferably at least 15° around the periphery.

8. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 4 wherein the mounting lugs are arcuate in shape.

9. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 4 wherein the mounting lugs mount the cartridge in a bayonet type fitting.

10. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 4 wherein the lower edge of the lug periphery is chamfered such that as the mounting lug is rotated onto a receiving surface, the chamfer acts to cam the cartridge into sealing engagement with a or the seal.

11. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 10 wherein the chamfer profile is substantially the same around the entire lug periphery.

12. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 4 wherein the cartridge, or at least the lugs thereof, are made from a plastics material, preferably a heat resistant plastics material.

13. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 12 wherein the plastics material is resistant to degradation by gamma radiation.

Claims 14-18 (Cancelled)

19. (Original) A water treatment cartridge comprising a sealing surface arranged inwardly of its periphery, said sealing surface being formed, at least in part, by at least a portion of an inwardly facing, downwardly extending wall.

20. (Original) A water treatment appliance comprising a downwardly depending wall, and a seal mounted on the outwardly facing surface of the wall for engagement with a sealing surface provided on a water treatment cartridge.

21. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 19 ~~or 20~~ wherein the sealing surface is formed around the corner between an upwardly and inwardly facing surface of the upper part of the cartridge.

22. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 21 wherein the corner is rounded or chamfered.

23. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any of claims 19 to 22~~ claim 19 wherein the inwardly facing wall tapers inwardly from top to bottom.

24. (Original) A water treatment cartridge comprising an upper surface having an inwardly facing downwardly depending wall, said wall being inwardly tapering.

25. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any of claims 19-24~~ claim 19 wherein the inwardly facing wall forms the radially outer wall of an annular channel extending around the top of the cartridge.

26. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 25 wherein water inlet openings are provided in the inwardly facing wall.

27. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim ~~25 or~~ 26 wherein water inlet openings are also provided in the radially inner, outwardly facing wall of the channel.

28. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 27 wherein the inner wall has a smaller open area than the outer.

29. (Original) A water treatment cartridge having an upper surface provided with an annular channel, water inlet openings being provided on both the inner and outer walls of the annular channel.

30. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any of claims 27 to 30~~ claim 27 wherein the inlet openings are provided in a lower part of the outer wall and an upper part of the inner wall.

31. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any of claims 25 to 30~~ claim 25 wherein vent openings are provided at the top of the enclosed area.

32. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any of claims 25 to 30~~ claim 25 wherein one or more ribs extend across the annular channel.

33. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 4 wherein the cartridge comprises a cartridge body whose upper end is closed by a cap.

34. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 4 further comprising a grille provided at the bottom of the container body.

35. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 34 wherein the grille retains treatment particles away from a restricted opening in the base of the container body.

36. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 35 wherein the grille is snap fitted into the container body which is provided with suitable retaining means, for example a retaining lip formed on its inside surface.

37. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim 34, ~~35 or 36~~ wherein the grille is formed with an upwardly dished outer portion in which air will collect in preference to the grille surface and which when arranged within the container body is spaced from the container body such that air can escape between the container body and the dished portion of the grille.

Claims 38 – 39 (cancelled)

40. (Original) A water treatment cartridge having a cartridge body which tapers in a curved manner from the top to the bottom of the cartridge.

41. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim ~~39 or~~ 40 having a major and minor axes and the taper aligned with the major axis of the cartridge.

42. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding claim 39, 40 or 41~~ claim 40, wherein the curve extends substantially to the centre line of the cartridge.

43. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any of claims 39 to 41~~ claim 40 wherein both the front and rear walls of the cartridge are so tapered.

44. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding claim 4~~ wherein means are provided on the cartridge which prevent the cartridge being used in an inappropriate appliance.

45. (Original) A liquid heating appliance comprising a water treatment cartridge, means being provided on the cartridge and on a mounting location for the cartridge to prevent an incorrect cartridge being mounted therein.

46. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in claim ~~44 or~~ 45 wherein one or more keys provided in a portion of the cartridge with a complementary key being provided in the mounting location.

47. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 46 wherein the key(s) are provided on a peripheral surface of the cartridge, in a mounting lug for the cartridge or on an inner wall of the cartridge.

48. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 4 wherein the treatment cartridge has associated with it a counter which can be used to indicate the degree of usage of the cartridge.

49. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 48 wherein the cartridge is provided with means which, upon rotation of the cartridge into or out of position engage with an actuator for resetting a usage counter.

50. (Original) A water treatment cartridge comprising means which, upon rotation of the cartridge into or out of position engage with an actuator for resetting a usage counter for the cartridge.

51. (Original) A water treatment appliance comprising a counter indicating usage of a treatment cartridge, and an actuator for resetting said counter automatically when the cartridge is removed or replaced.

52. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 4 wherein the cartridge also comprises a particle filter.

Claims 53-61 (Cancelled)

62. (Original) A water treatment apparatus having a water treatment cartridge mounted in a water receiving vessel which receives a hopper for containing untreated water, said hopper having valve means which is opened by an upper surface of the cartridge when the hopper is placed on the vessel.

63. (Original) A water treatment cartridge having an upper surface provided with an annular channel, water inlet openings being provided on at least one wall of the channel.

64. (Original) A water treatment cartridge having planar mounting lugs provided at the upper end of the cartridge.